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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/889,556	09/27/2001	Lonce Lamar Wyse	P21287	7713
7055	7590	01/19/2005	EXAMINER	
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			VU, THANH T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/889,556

Applicant(s)

WYSE ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh T. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 08/19/2004.

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. In the Amendment, claims 17-19 were added, and claims 1-16 were amended. This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 10-13, and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Capps et al., ("Capps", U.S. Patent No. 5,204,969) in view of Wehmeyer (U.S. Pat. No. 6,034,925).

As per claim 1, Capps teaches an apparatus that labels one of a sound and a representation thereof, comprising a sound generator that generates a family of sounds by selection of values of parameters of a sound model (see Capps, column 3, lines 16 – 24), at least some parameter values being associated with descriptive labels whereby selection of said parameter value automatically selects a corresponding label that identifies said one of said generated sound and representation thereof (see Capps, figure 5, items 53D and 53E and column 5, lines 3 – 7). Capps does not specifically teach at least some parameter values associated with descriptive labels providing a content-related description of one of said generated sound and presentation thereof. However, Wehmeyer teaches at least some parameter values associated

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with descriptive labels providing a content-related description of one of said generated sound and presentation thereof (col. 2, lines 25-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the descriptive labels as taught by Wehmeyer in the invention of Capps because the descriptive information enables user to easily identify the contents of pre-recorded media. This ease of identification allows easy cataloging of the user's media collection and quick access to desired programs contained within the collection.

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps further teaches the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein values of each parameter are divided into a plurality of ranges, said labels being associated with respective ranges (see Capps, figure 7, items 73D and 73E and column 5, lines 60 – 64).

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps further teaches the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein value labels are combined with a model label indicating an identity of the model (see Capps, figure 4B, items 41A-D and 46D and column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 2).

As per claim 10, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps teaches the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said parameters include values not associated with any label (see Capps, figure 2, item 23 and column 2, line 64 – column 3, line 2).

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As per claim 11, which is dependent on claim 10, Capps teaches the method of claim 10 (see rejection above). Capps teaches the apparatus of Claim 10 wherein said values not associated with any label include values for which said parameter has one of little or no effect on generated sound (see Capps, figure 2, item 23 and column 2, line 64 – column 3, line 2; it is inherent that the display resolution of the waveform does not effect the generated sound).

As per claim 12, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps further teaches the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein one of sound and representation thereof comprises a digital audio file (see Capps, column 1, lines 38 – 40; it is inherent that the sound is stored digitally because it is stored in a computer memory).

As per claim 13, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps further teaches the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein one of sound and representation thereof comprises an analog audio file (see Capps, claim 1, lines 13 – 15).

As per claim 15, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps further teaches the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein one of sound and representation thereof comprises the selected parameter values for the sound model (see Capps, figure 2, item 20).

As per claim 16, Capps teaches a method of labeling one of sound and a representation thereof comprising:

selecting a sound by selection of values of parameters of a sound model (see Capps, column 3, lines 16 – 24), at least some parameter values being associated with descriptive labels whereby selection of a value automatically selects a corresponding label that identifies the selected sound, (see Capps, figure 5, items 53D and 53E and column 5, lines 3 – 7), generating one of the sound and a representation as a file and associating the file with the corresponding label (see Capps, column 1, lines 38 – 40 and column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 2; it is inherent that the sound is stored digitally because it is stored in a computer memory). Capps does not specifically teach at least some parameter values associated with descriptive labels that provide a content-related description of the selected sound. However, Wehmeyer teaches at least some parameter values associated with descriptive labels that provide a content-related description of the selected sound (col. 2, lines 25-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the descriptive labels as taught by Wehmeyer in the invention of Capps because the descriptive information enables user to easily identify the contents of pre-recorded media. This ease of identification allows easy cataloging of the user's media collection and quick access to desired programs contained within the collection.

Per claim 17, Wehmeyer teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein said selected corresponding label is associated with said sound it is describing (col. 2, lines 1-5).

Per claim 18, Wehmeyer teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein said selected corresponding label is tagged to said sound it is describing (col. 2, lines 1-5, and lines 25-35).

Per claim 19, Wehmeyer teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein said selected corresponding label is attached to a time location in a media containing said sound (col. 1, lines 61-65; col. 2, lines 64-67).

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Capps et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,204,969, Wehmeyer, U.S. Pat. No. 6,034,925 and Eisenbrandt et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,438,180.

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 3, Capps and Wehmeyer teach the method of claim 3 (see rejection above). Capps and Wehmeyer do not teach the apparatus of claim 3 wherein the value and model labels are combined in a grammatical or semi-grammatical structure. Eisenbrandt teaches wherein labels and parameters are combined in a grammatical or semi-grammatical structure (see Eisenbrandt, figure 2 and column 2, lines 11 – 18). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Eisenbrandt with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to provide an intuitive input selection process.

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 4, Capps and Wehmeyer teach the method of claim 4 (see rejection above). Capps and Wehmeyer do not teach the apparatus of Claim 4 wherein value labels qualify said model label. Eisenbrandt teaches wherein value labels qualify said model label (see Eisenbrandt, figure 2 and column 2, lines 26 – 30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Eisenbrandt with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to provide a more intuitive input selection process.

Claims 6 – 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Capps et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,204,969, Wehmeyer, U.S. Pat. No. 6,034,925, and Menendez et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,555,369.

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 3, Capps and Wehmeyer teach the method of claim 3 (see rejection above). Capps and Wehmeyer do not teach the apparatus of Claim 3 wherein said value labels and said said model labels are combined using a template defining how the labels are combined. Menendez teaches wherein the value and model labels are combined using a template defining how the labels are combined (see Menendez, column 2, lines 37 – 48). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Menendez with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to provide an easier method of creating and arranging complicated graphical user interfaces.

As per claim 7, which is dependent on claim 6, Capps and Wehmeyer teaches the method of claim 6 (see rejection above). Capps and Wehmeyer do not teach the apparatus of Claim 6 wherein said template specifies a relative position of each label. Menendez teaches wherein said template specifies a relative position of each label (see Menendez, column 2, lines 37 – 48). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Menendez with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to give a user more flexibility in creating and arranging complicated graphical user interfaces.

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 6, Capps and Wehmeyer teaches the method of claim 6 (see rejection above). Capps and Wehmeyer do not teach the apparatus of claim 6 wherein said template specifies text to be used between labels. Menendez teaches wherein said template specifies text to be used between labels (see Menendez, column 9, line 61 – column 10, line 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Menendez with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to give a user more flexibility in creating and arranging complicated graphical user interfaces.

As per claim 9, which is dependent on claim 6, Capps and Wehmeyer teaches the method of claim 6 (see rejection above). Capps and Wehmeyer do not teach the apparatus of Claim 6. wherein said template includes conditional statements for inclusion of at least one of a label and text. Menendez teaches wherein said template includes conditional statements for inclusion of at least one of a label and text (see Menendez, column 11, lines 8 – 10; the examiner interprets a button script as a conditional statement because it will execute on the condition that the button it is associated with on the template is pressed). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Menendez with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to give a user more flexibility in creating and arranging complicated graphical user interfaces.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Capps et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,204,969, Wehmeyer, U.S. Pat. No. 6,034,925, and Bryan, Jr. et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,559,301.

As per claim 14, which is dependent on claim 1, Capps and Wehmeyer teaches the method of claim 1 (see rejection above). Capps does not teach the apparatus of Claim 1 wherein one of said sound and representation thereof comprises control codes for a synthesizer. Bryan, Jr. teaches one of said sound and representation thereof comprises control codes for a synthesizer (see Bryan, Jr., column 2, lines 40 – 46). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Bryan, Jr. with the method of Capps and Wehmeyer in order to provide an improved, less complicated and easy to use graphical interface for an audio generator device.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the Amendment have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh T. Vu whose telephone number is (571) 272-4073. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur and every other Fri 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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